Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCSE-00 MMO-04 SP-02 ABF-01 PER-03 SS-15 /039 W

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R 041535Z MAR 77 FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3417 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 STUTTGART 381

FOR SCA AND EUR/EX

E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CASC GW

SUBJ: POST STAFFING FOR CONSULAR VISITS TO PRISONERS

REF: (A) STATE 44228 (B) BONN 38326 (C) STUTTGART OM TO SCA/SCS OF 2/9/77 (D) STUTTGART OM OF 3/2/77 TO EUR/EX ENCLOSING INSPECTORS' DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS OF 2/18/77

- 1. PER DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS IN REF A TO PROVIDE DETAILED JUSTIFICATION FOR INCREASED CONSULAR STAFFING, POST WISHES TO SUBMIT A BRIEF RESUME OF ITS JUSTIFICATION FOR A THIRD CONSULAR POSITION. A FULL JUSTIFICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY OM TO EUR/EX THROUGH EMBASSY BONN ON MARCH 2 AND SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHORTLY.
- 2. STUTTGART HAS HAD A LONG-STANDING REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL CONSULAR OFFICER. THE NEED IS NOW CRITICAL. SINCE THE 1975 INSPECTION, WHEN THE RECOMMENDATION WAS MADE THAT AN AMERICAN POSITION BE ADDED TO THE STUTTGART PERSONNEL CEILING, OUR OVERALL CONSULAR WORKLOAD HAS INCREASED ON AN AVERAGE OF 15 TO 25 PERCENT. IN CALENDAR YEAR 1976, TWO REPEAT TWO CONSULAR OFFICERS ISSUED SOME 41,000 VISAS, 8,500 PASSPORTS, 2,600 REPORTS OF BIRTH AND PERFORMED 3,600 NOTARIAL ACTIONS. (THE UNCLASSIFIED

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POST'S WORKLOAD STILL CONTINUES TO RISE. IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF CALENDAR 1977 (THE "LEAN PERIOD"), WE HAVE ALREADY ISSUED 6,638 VISAS, 1,353 PASSPORTS AND 374 REPORTS OF BIRTH AND HAVE PERFORMED 533 NOTARIAL SERVICES). THE POST ALSO CARRIED A HEAVY SCS WORKLOAD (18,476 SERVICES IN FISCAL 1975) SERVING BOTH A HEAVY TOURIST TRADE AND SOME 13,000 RESIDENT AMCITS, 4,000 OR MORE OF WHOM ARE FEDERAL BENEFITS RECIPIENTS.

OUR PRISONER PROGRAM, HOWEVER, DEMANDS THE ALLOCATION OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF OUR SCS RESOURCES.

- 3. SINCE OCTOBER 1976, THE POST HAS CONSCIENTIOUSLY MAINTAINED THE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY VISITATION SCHEDULE TO SOME 35 TO 40 PRISONERS INCARCERATED IN 14 DIFFERENT JAILS SPREAD THROUGHOUT OUR CONSULAR DISTRICT. THIS LATTER TASK KEEPS ONE OF OUR TWO OFFICERS OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR THREE DAYS A WEEK (AT WHICH TIME THE OTHER OFFICER ASSUMES HIS IN-OFFICE DUTIES) PLUS TIME REQUIRED FOR REPORTING AND INDIVIDUAL CASE FOLLOW-UP IN THE PRISONER PROGRAM.
- 4. THE POST APPRECIATES THE DEPARTMENT'S EXPECTATION IN PARA 5 REF A THAT POSTS SHOULD QUOTE REALIGN PRIORITIES WITHIN, AND IF NECESSARY OUTSIDE, CONSULAR SECTIONS TO FIND SUFFICIENT OFFICER TIME TO FULFILL THIS IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY TO OUR CITIZENS UNQUOTE AND AGREES THAT WELL-ORDERED PRIORITIES AND LEAN STAFFING SHOULD BE THE CONSTANT GOALS OF ANY MISSION. HOWEVER, THERE IS OBVIOUSLY NO ROOM FOR REALIGNMENT IN AN ALREADY OVERBURDENED TWO-MAN CONSULAR SECTION. AND WITH RE-SPECT TO POSSIBLE USE OF MANPOWER FROM OTHER SECTIONS, THIS POST IS ALREADY FACING A MAJOR REALIGNMENT PROBLEM IN JULY 1977 WHEN OUR POLITICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION (NO. 14-042) IS DUE TO BE ABOLISHED AND ITS FUNCTIONS DEVOLVE UPON OTHER SECTIONS OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL. REINFORCEMENT FROM OUTSIDE THE CONSULAR SECTION IS ALSO IMPOSSIBLE, BECAUSE AFTER LOSS OF POSITION NO. 14-042, THE TOTAL OFFICER COMPLEMENT WILL BE SIX: THE CONSUL GENERAL, TWO CONSULAR OFFICERS, AND THREE COMMERCIAL OFFICERS IN ONE OF THE BUSIEST AND MOST PROMISING UNCLASSIFIED

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ECONOMIC REGIONS IN GERMANY.

5. ON REALIGNMENT IN JULY, THE CONSULAR SECTION WILL ASSUME MOST OF THE DUTIES OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR PLUS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR POST SECURITY AND THE POST'S E&E PLAN, FUNCTIONS WHICH NOW CONSUME OVER HALF OF THE WORKTIME OF THE INCUMBENT OF POSITION NO. 14-042. THE POLITICAL, POLITICAL, MILITARY, PERSONNEL, BUDGET AND ELG FUNCTIONS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE ABSORBED BY THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION. AS THE CONSULAR SECTION MUST ASSUME NONCONSULAR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PRISONER PROGRAM CONTINUE TO EXPAND, WE SINCERELY BELIEVE IT WILL ONLY EVIDENCE POOR MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND CONSEQUENTLY RESULT IN A REDUCED STANDARD OF SERVICE TO OUR NON-PRISONER CLIENTELE, IF WE ARE NOT ASSIGNED A THIRD CONSULAR OFFICER.

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6. THIS IS NOT TO IMPLY IN ANY WAY THAT STUTTGART DOES NOT TAKE ITS PRISONER VISITATION/PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY. WE ARE ONE OF THREE POSTS IN THE FRG WITH A LARGE PRISONER POPULATION, AND WE ARE MAKING A CONSCIENTIOUS EFFORT TO FULFILL OUR NEW OBLIGATIONS AND WE ARE DOING SO WITH A TWO-MAN SECTION, WHICH IS WELL BELOW THE NORM. WE ALSO HAVE DEVELOPED WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE A RESPONSIVE PROGRAM OF PRISONER ASSISTANCE IN KEEPING WITH THE SCS PRISONER HANDBOOK GUIDELINES (REF C). IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE AND IN ALL GOOD CONSCIENCE, THE POST IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED AS TO HOW IT CAN DO MORE WITH LESS WITHOUT SERIUSLY DIMINISHING THE QUALITY OF ITS SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

7. A QUOTE FROM THE INSPECTORS' 1977 DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS BEST SUMMARIZES THE PROBLEM: "THE INCREASED WORKLOAD (CONSULAR) CANNOT BE CARRIED BY THE LOCAL STAFF, SINCE MUCH OF IT REQUIRES AN AMERICAN OFFICER'S SERVICES ... AND THE LOCAL STAFF HAS BEEN CUT BY ONE POSITION. THIS CUT WAS ONLY MADE POSSIBLE BY THE STRONG MANAGEMENT CHANGES INITIATED BY THE PRESENT CONSUL, AND HE HAS ADDITIONAL IDEAS FOR TIGHTENING UP AND INCREASING LOCAL EMPLOYEE SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC. BUT HE CANNOT DO IT WITHOUT ADDITIONAL AMERICAN HELP. AN ADDED AMERICAN POSITION IN THE CONSULAR SECTION WOULD ALSO ALLOW THE UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSUL TO TAKE OVER CRITICAL ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES WHEN THE POSITION OF THE PRESENT OFFICER CARRYING THESE DUTIES IS ABOLISHED OR CONVERTED. EUR/EX, WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF EMB-

ASSY BONN, SHOULD PERMIT CONSULATE GENERAL STUTTGART TO CONVERT THE POLITICAL/ECONOMIC OFFICER POSITION NO. 14-042 TO A CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION, UPON THE DEPARTURE OF THE PRESENT INCUMBENT IN JULY, 1977."

8. THE POST REQUESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONVERT POSITION NO. 14-042 TO A CONSULAR POSITION TO BE RETAINED BY CONSULATE GENERAL STUTTGART. THE DEPARTMENT'S EARLY AND FAVORABLY CONSIDERATION OF THIS REQUEST WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATD BY BOTH THE POST AND ITS CONSULAR CLIENTELE ALIKE. JENKINS

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